October 22

Ecclesiasticus 50:22

Only Wonderful Things?

Now therefore bless ye the God of all, which only doth wonderous things every where, which exalteth our days from the womb, and dealeth with us according to his mercy.

Only Wonderful Things?

[See Psalm 72:18, Ecclesiasticus 31:9 ("wonderous", "wondrous")]

During times of joy, happiness, and prosperity, these words may provide comfort and even a sense of security or

entitlement.

When things aren't going well at all, however, such writings may not only fail to offer soothing, but could actually be scorned and rejected. That's the way it is

with almost any words, especially those that we may believe to be uplifting and reassuring.

Situations and emotions have the ability to cloud how we

receive Scripture.
So, during times
that our lives
seem hard, heavy,
painful, empty,
unstable, or
in any way
unpleasant, when
we read that
God only does
wonderful things,

it's possible to doubt or disregard such writings. We may discount them as mere poetry or even as outright dishonesty.

?

Questions may be asked:

How is it that God ONLY does WONDEROUS things yet my life is not wonderful all the time?

What does Scripture mean by the word “wonderous”?

One cannot
read the whole
of Scripture
(for oneself;
not relying on
interpretations of
religious leaders)
and come to the
conclusion that life
will be perfectly
problem-free

at all times.

Scripture uses various writing styles in covering a wide span of time, including the beginning of creation to the end of earth as we know it.

It reveals that not everything is sweet, clean, fair, fun, and easy—not even for the truly godly and righteous.

In fact, a good part of the Old Testament and

New Testament consists of brutality and violence, enslavement, the mistreatment of the innocent and godly, and abject inequity. So, then, why does Scripture

say that God
only does
wonderful things?

"Well, it's from an
apocryphal book
anyway, so maybe
it's not Scripture
and, therefore,
it's an error", some
may say.

Oh? Is the New Testament book of Romans part of legitimate Scripture?

Doesn't Romans 8:28 say, "
"And we know that <u>all things</u> work together for <u>good</u> to them

that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose”?

Doesn’t the Old Testament book of Psalms, chapter 72, verse 18 say, “Blessed be the LORD God, the

God of Israel,
who **only** doeth
wondrous
things"?

So, it's not an
issue of
where this
verse is found.
Perhaps the answer
is discovered

in the proper interpretation and understanding of “good” and, more specifically, “wonderous”.

The quick answer is that the way we, humans, think of “good” and

“wonderous” is not how Scripture speaks of those words. Further, we are often reminded in Scripture that God’s thoughts and ways are very different from those of humans. Even so, let’s consider the

birth of Jesus to get a less human and more God-like perspective.

Mary was with child and homeless before Jesus was born. Despite the highly sanitized scenes we are

bombarded with
around Christmas,
giving birth in
the conditions
as described in
Scripture had
to be seriously
uncomfortable, to
say the least. That's
just the birth itself.
There were other

situations surrounding Jesus' birth, including a king wanting to kill him before he was born. Yet, none of that would be considered "wonderous", by human standards. But how wonderous

it was that Jesus was born in such way!

No one can say he was only called Messiah because he was born into a wealthy family with the best living conditions. No one

can claim he was
born in the best city
since Nazareth was
considered to be
a bad place
(John 1:46).
From start to finish
of Jesus' conception
and birth, things
appeared to be
mighty bleak, yet

they were mighty
blessed—
wonderous.

That's just one
example of how,
regardless to the
way life looks,
God only does
wonderous things.

ONE A DAY
SCRIPTURE
1611KJV
PRAYER